Higher Education AND NATIONAL AFFAIRS

issued by
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION
1785 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Bulletin No. Volume III, Number 13

June 10, 1954

Results Announced of P.L. 550 Amendment Poll

Proposed changes in educational benefits of P.L. 550, the Korean G.I. Bill, have been under discussion for some time. The most recent proposal is incorporated in H.R. 9235, a bill introduced in the House on May 20, 1954. An identical measure was subsequently introduced in the Senate as S. 3648. The proposal in brief is that $30 a month be paid to each institution of higher learning by the Federal government on behalf of each veteran, and that a portion or the whole of this sum, if appropriate, be credited toward the veteran's tuition and fees.

To determine the extent to which higher education would support this proposal, the American Council on Education, by direction of its Committee on Relationships of Higher Education to the Federal Government, conducted in May a poll of four-year colleges and universities and of constituent member organizations. The Council polled 1328 institutions and 77 constituent member organizations, asking whether or not "the proposed amendment should be supported by higher education." Replies were received, as of June 1, from 646 institutions (48.6%) and 25 organizations (32.5%). Twelve replies from institutions and five replies from organizations were not tabulated because they indicated no opinion.

The following tables show the results of the voting by the 634 institutions and the 20 organizations that expressed opinions. Of the institutions, 71.3% voted in favor of higher education's supporting the amendment, while 28.7% voted against. Of the constituent members of the Council voting (i.e., national and regional educational associations), 65.0% voted for and 35.0% against the proposal.

Of those institutions under public control voting, 45.5% are in favor of the amendment while 84.3% of the privately controlled institutions voting favor the amendment. In terms of size of student body: of those institutions with less than 1,000 students, 80.9% favor the amendment; of those with between 1,000 and 3,000 students, 67.6% favor the amendment; and of institutions with student bodies in excess of 3,000, 41.5% are in favor.

Not included in this poll were the junior colleges, which represent some 28% of higher education institutions. Their views are being polled separately and will be announced soon.

A detailed analysis of the current poll of four-year colleges and universities and of the Council's constituent members follows:

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

	TOTAL	FOR		AGAINST	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%
I. By A.C.E. Membership					
A.C.E. Members	423	292	69.0	131	31.0
Non-members	211	160	75.8	51	24.2
Total	634	452	71.3	182	28.7
II. By Type of Control					
Public	213	97	45.5	116	54.5
Private	421	355	84.3	66	15.7
Total	634	452	71.3	182	28.7
III. By Enrollment					
Under 1,000	383	310	80.9	73	19.1
1,000 - 2,999	145	98	67.6	47	32.4
3,000 and over	106	44	41.5	62	58.5
Total	634	452	71.3	182	28.7

COUNCIL CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

TOTAL	FOR		AGAINST	
No.	No.	%	No.	%
20	13	65.0	7	35.0

In the lists below, organizations with an asterisk cast votes by action of their annual meetings or executive committees or similar governing bodies. Votes cast by the other organizations represent the opinions of responsible officers.

ORGANIZATIONS FOR

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, *American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Association of Theological Schools, *Association of American Colleges, *Bureau of Professional Education and Colleges of the American Osteopathic Association, Educational Records Bureau, Jesuit Educational Association, National Catholic Educational Association, National Council of Teachers of English, National League for Nursing, Southern Regional Education Board, Teaching Film Custodians, Inc., *U.S. National Student Association

ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST

*Association for Higher Education (NEA), Association of Accredited Schools and Departments of Journalism, *Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, *National Association of State Universities, *State Universities Association, *American Association of Junior Colleges

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